



# VISTAS

news from the  
national scenic byways program  
Vol. II No. 2  
August, 1998

---

## TEA-21 PROVIDES \$148 MILLION FOR SCENIC BYWAYS

---

President Clinton signed into law on June 9 the \$217.5 billion Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21). The largest public works legislation in U.S. history, it provides a 40 percent increase in overall funding for transit and highways through FY 2003, and contains \$148 million for scenic byways over its six-year life.

The measure, passed overwhelmingly by House and Senate just before Memorial Day, continues previous legislation's emphasis on intermodalism and programs to protect and enhance the environment.

Funding for technical assistance and grants under the scenic byways discretionary program amounts to \$23.5 million for each fiscal year 1998 and 1999, \$24.5 million for each fiscal year 2000 and 2001, \$25.5 million for fiscal year 2002, and \$26.5 million for fiscal year 2003.

Under TEA-21, the categories of project eligible for scenic byways funding are expanded to include development and implementation of scenic byways marketing programs. Most program provisions are carried over unchanged from previous legislation. TEA-21 spells out three funding priorities.

They are:

- ▶ eligible projects associated with National Scenic Byway or All-American Roads and consistent with the corridor management plan;
- ▶ eligible projects along state-designated scenic byways, consistent with the corridor management plan or intended to aid development of a corridor management plan and carried out to make byways eligible for national designation, and;
- ▶ eligible projects associated with development of a state scenic byways program.

TEA-21 also continues the transportation enhancements program, expanding the list of eligible enhancements projects. The provision of tourist and welcome centers has been added to an existing category of enhancement projects, described as: "scenic or historic highway programs."

Several scenic byways related projects are authorized in Section 1215, which covers designated transportation enhancements activities. West Virginia's Coal Heritage Trail is appropriated \$2 million for each of fiscal years 1999, 2000 and 2001.

For a new center, the National Scenic Byways Resource Center, in Duluth, MN, \$1.5 million is appropriated for each of TEA-21's six fiscal years.

Details are about TEA-21 can be found on line at [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov).

## SECRETARY DESIGNATES 33 NEW ROADS FOR NATIONAL PROGRAM



Representatives of All-American Roads and National Scenic Byway and all state scenic byway coordinators are being notified of a scenic byways meeting in late April, 1999. The venue and exact dates are still to be decided.

According to preliminary plans, two days will be devoted to the byways themselves. A field trip to a National Scenic Byway or All-American Road will be included and two days will be set aside for state coordinators' issues.



---

Thirty-three new routes joined the existing 14 National Scenic Byways and six All-American Roads on June 9, when Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater designated the second ever round of byways. The newcomers comprise three All-American Roads and 30 National Scenic Byways in 19 states.

At a Capitol Hill ceremony with standing room only, Secretary Slater presented plaques to a number of representatives from the new roads.

"The National Scenic Byways Program enables Americans to fully enjoy the

roads that are important to us culturally, historically and esthetically," the Secretary said. The newly designated byways are in states as far apart as Alaska and Alabama, New Hampshire, Utah and South Carolina. They traverse landscapes as varied as mountain passes in Washington State, California desert, South Dakota plains, urban boulevards in Minnesota and historic town-scapes on Indiana's National Road, the country's first federally funded highway.

Among the new designations are scenic routes in Ohio and Illinois along the north shore of the Ohio River. The North Carolina section of the Cherohala Skyway through the southern Appalachian Mountains was also designated. Altogether, 10 new states joined the national program.

Details of all 33 routes are available on the National Scenic Byways Program website at [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org) or from the National Scenic Byways Clearinghouse as glossy inserts into the existing DOT brochure describing the first 20 National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads. Photographs of the announcement event can be downloaded from the announcement page at the website.

### **SECOND ROUND DESIGNATIONS**

#### **All-American Roads**

##### *Oregon*

Historic Columbia River Highway  
Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway

##### *Washington*

Mather Memorial Parkway

#### **National Scenic Byways**

##### *Alabama*

Talladega Scenic Drive

##### *Alaska*

The Seward Highway

##### *Arizona*

Kaibab Plateau - North Rim Parkway

##### *Arkansas*

Crowley's Ridge Parkway

##### *California*

Death Valley Scenic Byway

##### *Colorado*

Frontier Pathways

Santa Fe Trail Scenic & Historic

Byway

Top of the Rockies

##### *Illinois*

Meeting of the Great Rivers

Ohio River Scenic Route

##### *Indiana*

The National Road

##### *Minnesota*

Grand Rounds Scenic Byway

##### *New Hampshire*

White Mountain Trail

##### *New Mexico*

Billy the Kid Trail

El Camino Real

Santa Fe Trail

##### *North Carolina*

Cherohala Skyway

##### *Ohio*

Ohio River Scenic Route

##### *Oregon*

Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway

McKenzie Pass - Santiam Pass

Pacific Coast Scenic Byway

Outback Scenic Byway

##### *South Carolina*

Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway

Savannah River Scenic Highway

##### *South Dakota*

The Native American Scenic Byway

##### *Utah*

Flaming Gorge - Uintas Scenic Byway

Nebo Loop Scenic Byway

##### *Washington*

Mountains to Sound Greenway

##### *West Virginia*

The Coal Heritage Trail

### **BYWAYS WORKSHOPS PLANNED**

The Federal Highway Administration and the Scenic Byways Coalition have joined forces to offer a series of 1½-day regional workshops to share information on TEA-21 and its impact on the national scenic byways program. Among other important issues under discussion will be the long term management of scenic byways.

The workshop schedule is: Nashville, TN, September 13-15 Burlington, VT, September 17-19 Denver, CO, October 7-9. A fourth workshop in Monterey, CA,

October 11-13 will be followed by a two-day National Technology Symposium, October 13-14.

Further details can be found on the American Recreation Coalition website, [www.arc.funoutdoors.com](http://www.arc.funoutdoors.com), where registration forms can also be completed.

### **CREOLE NATURE TRAIL HOSTS CEREMONIES, MARKETING MEET**

Out of town visitors celebrating National Tourism Week in Lake Charles, LA during May included National Scenic Byways Program staff and members of the National Scenic Byways Program marketing committee, who devoted a day to exploring the 288-km (180-mile) Creole Nature Trail, a National Scenic Byway.

Besides meetings and consultations, other features of the week included installation of a new Creole Nature Trail sign, a formal declaration of the trail as a national treasure. The marketing

committee continued its work developing a marketing tool kit for the national program. It also welcomed Shelley Johnson, director of the Lake Charles Convention and Visitors Bureau, as a new member of the six-person committee.

---

---

**Vistas originates at the  
National Scenic Byways  
Clearinghouse\***  
**1440 New York Ave., Ste.  
202, Washington, DC  
20005**  
**(800) 4BYWAYS**  
**<http://www.byways.org>**  
**Editor - Céi Richardson**

---

---

\* A partnership of the American Automobile Association  
Transportation, Travel and Tourism Institute and U.S.  
Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration